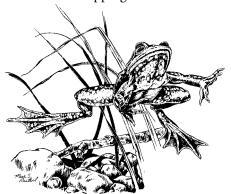
Rules and Regulations

Area hours: Area is open to vehicles from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily during Daylight Savings Time and from 7a.m. to 6 p.m. Central Standard Time. The area is closed Thanksgiving Day, the Friday following Thanksgiving, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

- Check bulletin boards for special area regulations.
- Motor vehicles are restricted to roadways and parking areas. Please drive in a safe and orderly manner.
- No littering. Waste containers may be used only for disposal of trash generated on area.
- No pets allowed on the area.
- Open fires are not permitted.
- Public Fishing is prohibited on the area.
- Running is permitted only on the Hickory Grove Trail and paved road open to vehicles.
- Bicycles, skates and roller blades are allowed only on roads open to vehicles. They are not allowed on trails.
- Fireworks are not permitted.
- The area is closed to hunting, except during managed hunts.
- No target shooting allowed.
- Harvesting nuts, berries, fruits or wild greens is prohibited. Mushrooms may be collected only for personal consumption.
- Horseback riding is prohibited.
- Camping is not permitted.
- Swimming, skateboarding, and rappelling are not allowed on the area.
- Area is closed to trapping.





Welcome

Missouri is a state rich in history, folklore and natural resources. The Conservation Department encourages you to visit, use and enjoy this area and other Department areas.

Land surrounding Burr Oak Woods Conservation Area belongs to private landowners. The boundaries adjoining private property are clearly marked. Please respect landowners' rights with these simple courtesies: obtain permission before going on private property, pick up all litter and do not damage property.

Nearby Department Areas:

Baltimore Bend Conservation Area Ferguson-Herold Conservation Area Lipton Conservation Area Lone Jack Lake Conservation Area Maple Leaf Lake Conservation Area James A Reed Memorial Wildlife Area Saeger Woods Conservation Area

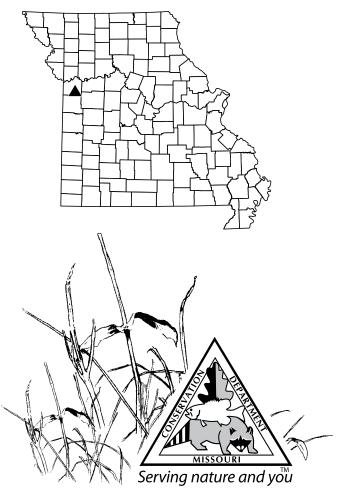
For local information, contact:

Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center 1401 NW Park Rd Blue Springs, MO 64015 816/228-3766

6/2013

Burr Oak Woods

CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Burr Oak Woods Conservation Area

About This Area

Burr Oak Woods Conservation Area is in Jackson County, 20 miles east of downtown Kansas City. The area is composed of 1,071 acres of woodlands, glades, native grass and forb plantings, fields and ponds, and includes a scenic portion of Burr Oak Creek. Burr Oak Woods was purchased in 1977. Its natural features include forested hillsides that quickly drop as much as 100 feet. Scattered limestone boulders and outcrops, with 8-footdeep mazes through them, add interest to the area. Nearly 80 percent of Burr Oak Woods is forested and contains a wide variety of tree species, including bur oak, white oak, red oak, chinkapin oak, black walnut, hackberry, white ash, shagbark hickory, Kentucky coffeetree, and many others. Understory trees include roughleaf dogwood, redbud, pawpaw, slippery elm, and Ohio buckeye. Open land and forest management practices that benefit wildlife such as native prairie plantings, food plots, brush piles, old field succession, edge feathering, invasive species control, woodland restoration, walnut agroforestry, and an oak plantation can be seen along the main road. These practices are maintained by tree thinning, prescribed burning, spraying or mowing. Several woodlands, savannahs and glades on the area have also been restored in the same manner. Management of the forest, wildlife and watershed is complemented by the conservation education and interpretive programming at Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center located on the area.



Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center

The nature center was completed in 1982, renovated in 2004, and features a collection of hands-on conservation exhibits. Check out the all new larger than life children's area added in 2012.

The center serves as a focal point of nature interpretation and conservation education. It includes a 168-seat auditorium and 3000-gallon aquarium displaying native fish and reptiles. Special events are scheduled throughout the year. Conservation programs and hikes are available to organized groups upon advance request.

The nature center is open from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The nature center will be closed Sundays and Mondays and closed Thanksgiving, the Friday following Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year Day.

Things to Do

- Hiking: six self-guided nature trails
- **1.** The *Missouri Tree Trail* (.75 mile) located just west of the nature center, is paved and fully accessible. This trail passes by a forest, prairie planting, woodland, and glade. There is a bridge near the pond, an overlook above the restored glade and several trees native to Missouri are labeled along the trail.
- 2. The *J. Ernest Dunn Jr. Discovery Trail* (.5 mile) is paved and winds through the woods behind the nature center. Interpretive signage enables the hiker to discover the forest natural community by learning cool forest facts and by brushing up on tree identification skills. Your family will love creating in the Discover Nature classroom along this trail.
- **3.** The *Wildlife Habitat Trail* (1.5 miles) is a natural surface trail which highlights a hidden pond, restored woodland and glades. The trail also contains a short loop option (.9 mile) with demo areas that show how tree harvesting and thinning improve forest health and wildlife habitat.
- **4.** The *Bethany Falls Trail* (1.33 miles), a favorite hiking trail in the Kansas City area, is a natural surface trail that passes by a restored woodland, savannah, and native prairie plantings. The trail then weaves through massive boulders of Bethany Falls limestone and travels past the remnants of an old homestead.
- **5.** The linear *Hickory Grove Trail* (2.3 miles or 1.15 one way) is gravel based and winds through the outlying areas of Burr Oak Woods. This trail is available to runners.
- **6.** The *Prairie Connector Trail* (.5 mile) connects the J. Ernest Dunn Jr. Discovery Trail and the Bethany Falls Trail to create a 2.33 miles hike. Features a bridge over a drainage in the forest.

• Nature study and wildlife viewing

Burr Oak Woods has a rich diversity of wildlife species. Deer, turkey, squirrels, raccoons, coyotes, and songbirds are commonly seen. A special bird watching area is available in the nature center.

- Outdoor photography
- Picnicking

There are two sack lunch picnic areas available on a first-come basis. Each picnic area includes tables and a privy, the lower picnic area includes a shelter. Open fires are not permitted.